

GENEALOGY OF THE CHAPMAN FAMILY

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ROEBUCK, MARY ELIZABETH

YOCUM, 1872-

GENEALOGY OF THE CHAPMAN

FAMILY

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# Genealogy of the Chapman Family

*Relatives of*

John Chapman (Jonny Appleseed)



Compiled

by

LIZZIE ROEBUCK

(Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Roebuck)





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Mary Elizabeth Roebuck

Fort Wayne, Indiana

*{First Printing}*

## MARY ELIZABETH ROEBUCK

Lizzie Roebuck (the trade name by which Mary Elizabeth Roebuck came to be known) was born on a farm near Mendon, Ohio, November 15, 1872. Her father, Milton Yocum, was a Civil War veteran and died when Lizzie was a girl of five. She received her early education in the public schools at Mendon and afterwards entered Lebanon College (Lebanon, Ohio) and took a business course.

She married Wesley Scoles Roebuck on April 7, 1892, and came with him to Fort Wayne in 1895. Here they established the Roebuck Gardens, the largest berry and vegetable gardens in this region. She has been secretary and sales manager of the Roebuck Gardens for more than fifty years. Her slogan has been *You raise the garden produce, and I'll sell it*. She was a founding member of the Vegetable Growers Association of America and the first woman to hold a life membership in this association. She was, so the trade informed her, the first woman to ship a carload of vegetables to Cleveland, Ohio, follow it up, and sell it.

In January, 1946, Wesley S. Roebuck, who had for years been working on the life of John Chapman, commonly known as Johnny Appleseed, asked her to compile the genealogy of the branch of the Chapman family to which his studies had definitely shown that Johnny Appleseed belonged. She at once took up this task, visiting many members of the family both in Indiana and Ohio and writing to those who were more distant. (One was in the Philippines.)

The following genealogy is the result of these contacts and the review of several hundred pages of written manuscripts. The sources of information are reliable, and separates the Johnny Appleseed Chapman family from all other Chapman families in America.

626309



MARY ELIZABETH ROEBUCK

JUL 23 1948

This genealogy of the John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) family has been compiled from public records in courthouses, affidavits and authentic letters from grandnieces, grand-nephews, great-grandnephews, and great-great-grandnephews of John Chapman; affidavits by Monroe Snyder and Rosaria B. (Cole) Murphy; and other reliable statements by members of the family. These affidavits and a number of written statements by members of the family follow the genealogy.

We do not know the given names of the parents nor grandparents of Andrew, John, Timothy, and Percis Chapman of Generation II. Here, it is plain, we are at the end of our genealogy of this line of Chapmans. The notarized statements point unmistakably to New Jersey as the birthplace of Andrew Chapman, John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed), Timothy Chapman, and Percis Chapman Broorn Snow.

THE GENEALOGY OF THE CHAPMAN FAMILY,  
RELATIVES OF JOHN CHAPMAN, COMMONLY  
KNOWN AS JOHNNY APPLESEED.

The purpose of this genealogy is to show the line of the Chapman family to which Johnny Appleseed belonged chiefly in order (1) to show the reliability of the information concerning John Chapman's descent as given in the preceding biography of Johnny Appleseed and (2) to quiet the claims of relationship of other lines of Chapmans. It must be remembered that a name in itself is not strong evidence either of relationship nor of identity and that there may be existing in a given community several unrelated people with the same surname and the same Christian name. This was true of John Chapman, both in Ohio and in Indiana. To cite one instance out of many, another John Chapman lived in Allen County, Indiana, about the same time as Johnny Appleseed did; but, as shown by his will on record at the Allen County Courthouse, he was illiterate and he had a wife and at least one child, both of which facts prove that he was not Johnny Appleseed.

This limited aim justifies the omission of much information which is usually included in a genealogy. Dates of birth, marriage, and death and details about the lives of the various members of the family could be found in most cases only by an amount of research which did not seem justified by the purpose; and these details have been left for others to discover. Family records and memories have been sufficient to establish the information which follows reliably enough for the purpose. A number of documents to authenticate many of the facts given below are appended.



## GENERATION 1

About the middle of the eighteenth century, according to family tradition, three young brothers left Scotland in order to find a new home and more economic freedom in America. They landed in New Jersey. Two of these men married; the third remained single. After a time, they separated. One brother was no longer heard of, but the other two kept in touch with each other. One of these young men, whose first name we have not been able to discover, became the Founder of the Chapman family to which John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) belonged.

1. The Founder of the family had at least four children:

- |    |    |                        |   |
|----|----|------------------------|---|
|    |    | 2                      | CHAPMAN   |
| XX | 2. | i. Andrew              |   |
|    |    | 2                      |   |
|    | 3. | ii. John               |   |
|    |    |                        | Born some time after 1784. Died March, 1845, in Allen County, Indiana, whither he had moved after living a number of years in various places in Ohio. His biography appears in preceding chapters of this book. |
|    |    | 2                      |   |
|    | 4. | iii. Timothy, Sr.      |   |
|    |    |                        | Born about 1790.  |
|    |    |                        | 1812, 1813, 1814, paid taxes on one horse and one head of cattle in Morgan Township, Knox County, Ohio.   |
|    |    |                        | 1816, 1817, paid taxes in Miller Township, same county.   |
|    |    |                        | No further record.  |
|    |    | 2                      |   |
| XX | 5. | iv. Percis. Born 1792. |   |

## SECOND GENERATION

- |    |                  |   |
|----|------------------|---|
|    | 2                | 1   |
| 2. | Andrew (Founder) |   |
|    |                  | Born about 1784 in New Jersey.  |
|    |                  | Married first in New Jersey. His wife, name unknown, died about 1827. |

Married second Almira (Rose) Bell, born August 28, 1814, at Palmyra, New York; moved with her parents to Cincinnati when three years old; moved, when sixteen, to Antwerp, Ohio, by ox team and wagon; married a Mr. Bell at Antwerp when young and separated from him. Married Andrew Chapman about 1835.

*Children by first marriage:*

- 3
6. i. Mary. Died young.
- 3
7. ii. Jane. Died young.
- 3
- XX 8. iii. John.
- 3
- XX 9. iv. Timothy, Jr.
- 3
- XX 10. v. Andrew, Jr.
- 3
- XX 11. vi. Aaron.
- 3
- XX 12. vii. Miles Eben (Ebenezer).

*Children by second marriage:*

- 3
- XX 13. viii. Eliza. Born 1839.
- 3
14. ix. Cordelia, Born in 1842. Died aged 18 months; buried in Antwerp Cemetery.
- 3
15. x. Julia. Born in 1844. Died unmarried at the age of 22 years; buried in Antwerp, Ohio, cemetery.
- 3
- XX 16. xi. Corintha. Born 1847.
- 3
- XX 17. xii. Rose. Born 1849.

After the death of his first wife, Andrew Chapman moved to Antwerp, Ohio, where he married Almira (Rose) Bell soon afterwards. He was a farmer, hunter, and fisherman. Nancy Platter Reasser, mother of Allie Reaser, who married Henry Chapman (38), said that he carried a gun so much that his

coat was worn through on the shoulder. He died in 1849 and was buried at Antwerp, Ohio, near the grave of Timothy Chapman, Jr. (9).

2        1

5. Percis (Founder).

Married first William Broom, either in New Jersey or in the Western Reserve, to which she moved when the other members of her family did. Married James Snow March 24, 1850, in Celina, Mercer County, Ohio.

*Child by first marriage:*

BROOM

3.

18.        i. Mary. Married John Harold.

No further record.

At the time of her brother John Chapman, Johnny Appleseed's, death, she lived in Jay County, Indiana. Upon the death of John Chapman, William Broom filed two claims for improvements on the property belonging to John Chapman, including timber hewed for a barn, a cabin, and fences. Percis waived her rights as executrix of her brother's estate in favor of her son-in-law, John Harold. William Broom died March 1, 1848, leaving no real estate. An inventory of his personal estate showed that their property consisted of two horses (\$63), a colt (\$25), a cow and calf (\$7.50), 7 hogs (\$10), a double trus and a single trus (\$2), and household furniture (\$10). Percis received \$165.93 from her brother John Chapman's estate after all claims against it were paid.'

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'This information is filed in the Jay County Circuit Court, Box No. 4, Will Record.

---

### THIRD GENERATION

3        2        1

8. John (Andrew, Founder)

CHAPMAN

Married, wife's name unknown.

*Children:*

4

19.        i. Wilber.

4

20.        ii. Charley.

No further record.



- 3                      2                      1
9. Timothy, Jr. (Andrew, Founder).  
     Born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1817.  
     Married a Miss Johnson.

*Children:*

- 4
- XX 21.            i. Jack.  
                      4
22.            ii. Amanda. Married a Mr. Davis and moved away. She was  
                      a magazine writer. No further record.  
                      4
23.            iii. Carrie. Married William Castle and lived in Mt. Pleasant,  
                      Mich.  
                      4
24.            iv. Wesley. Lived at Mount Pleasant, Michigan. He was a  
                      mechanic and was killed in a machine accident in 1903.  
                      Buried at Mt. Pleasant.

Timothy Chapman was a handyman and worked at many jobs. He moved to Allen County, Indiana, near the Ohio-Indiana State Line about 1840. His wife and one daughter rode on a canal boat; and John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) took turns with Timothy riding John Chapman's horse along the towpath. Timothy settled at a point called the Ox Bow, a bend in the Maumee River, and got a job with the Government taking care of Sailor's Lock in the Erie Canal near his home. Later, he was a section foreman on the Wabash Railroad, which was also near his home—about a half mile south of the old Erie Canal and a half mile west of the state line. His home was, for a time, headquarters for Johnny Appleseed; and he helped Johnny plant a nursery of apple trees beside the Maumee River. Timothy Chapman was the only relative present when John Chapman was buried by the spring near Richard Worth's home in the old burying ground on the Cassel Land. Timothy died May 30, 1886, and was burried in Antwerp, Ohio, Cemetery.

- 3                      2                      1
10. Andrew, Jr. (Andrew, Founder).  
     Born in 1819.  
     Married a Miss Wilcox.

*Children:*

- 4  
.25. i. Albert.  
4  
26. ii. Hanna.  
4  
27. iii. Anna.

Andrew, Jr. lived at DeWitt, Michigan, and was a farmer.

Died there in the 1890's.

No further record.

- 3        2        1  
11. Aaron (Andrew, Founder)  
Born in 1820.  
Married a Miss Jones.

*Children:*

- 4  
28. i. Hersha.  
4  
29. ii. Frank.  
4  
30. iii. John.  
4  
31. iv. Etta.  
4  
32. v. Orsa.

Aaron Chapman lived on a farm near Portland, Michigan, and was a big gardener. He died there in 1908 or 1910. No further record.

- 3                                  2        1  
12. Miles Eben (Ebenezer) (Andrew, Founder).  
Born August 8, 1821, near Oberlin, Ohio, on or near Rock River.  
Married Mary White, of Wellington, Ohio. She died in 1903  
and was buried at Hicksville, Ohio.

*Children:*

- 4  
33. i. Anna. Born 1853. Taught school. Two weeks before she  
was to be married, she caught cold and died at the age

of 22 years. She was buried in Hicksville, Ohio, cemetery.

4

XX 34. ii. George W.

4

XX 35. iii. Eben Miles.

4

36. iv. William. Born in 1861. Died in 1898, at Antwerp, Ohio. Buried in Hicksville, Ohio, cemetery.

4

XX 37. v. Andrew S.

4

XX 38. vi. Henry.

4

39. vii. Charles Darwin. Born in 1873, on a farm in DeKalb County, Indiana, one mile north of the Allen County-DeKalb County line and a mile and ninety rods west of the Indiana-Ohio State line. He graduated from Tri-State Normal in 1889 and took post graduate work in other schools. He taught school until 1900. For twenty-one years he was a structural engineer. After his retirement, he lived in Tangerine, Fla.

All these children except George W. taught school.

After his mother's death, about 1827, Miles Eben was taken into the home of a Mr. Peck, a Presbyterian deacon, to be raised. When he was about eighteen years of age, he became a partner in Mr. Peck's grist mill, which he operated till 1858. He was educated in the Oberlin, Ohio, schools. In 1859, Miles Eben sold his interest in the grist mill and moved to Antwerp, Ohio. He taught school here and in Hicksville and Newville. Two or three years later, he moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and taught in Coles Corners, Indiana. Altogether, he taught 27 years. His old pupils remember his fondness for lecturing on historical and other subjects of interest and for telling about his Uncle Johnny Appleseed.

After he quit teaching, he took up farming about five miles east of Spencer-ville, DeKalb County, Indiana. He bought a threshing machine and threshed for farmers. His son Eben Miles records that, on one occasion, Miles Eben,

Timothy, and he went to the place where John Chapman was buried and cut away the weeds with their jackknives. At another time, when Miles Eben was visiting Timothy (9), the two men went to Fort Wayne on a handcar. They walked to the site of Johnny Appleseed's grave, cut down poles with their axes, and built a three-pole fence around the grave.

Miles Eben Chapman died at Newville, Ohio, February 8, 1914, and was buried in the Hicksville, Ohio, Cemetery.

- |     |                         |   |   |        |
|-----|-------------------------|---|---|--------|
|     | 3                       | 2 | 1 |        |
| 13. | Eliza (Andrew, Founder) |   |   |        |
|     | Born in 1839.           |   |   | OSWALD |
|     | Married John Oswald.    |   |   |        |

*Children:*

- |     |      |           |  |
|-----|------|-----------|--|
|     |      | 4         |  |
| 40. | i.   | Crawford. | Married and lived at Hicksville, Ohio. |
|     |      | 4         |  |
| 41. | ii.  | John.     |  |
|     |      | 4         |  |
| 42. | iii. | Harvey.   | Married.                               |
|     |      | 4         |  |
| 43. | iv.  | Floris.   |  |

No further record.

- |     |                             |   |   |       |
|-----|-----------------------------|---|---|-------|
|     | 3                           | 2 | 1 |       |
| 16. | Corintha (Andrew, Founder). |   |   |       |
|     | Born in 1847.               |   |   | DRAKE |
|     | Married John Drake.         |   |   |       |

*Children:*

- |     |    |         |  |
|-----|----|---------|--|
|     |    | 4       |  |
| 44. | i. | Minnie. |  |

4

45.       ii.   Leonidas. Married. Had a grocery at Clinton, Ind.

4

46.       iii.   Almira.

4

47.       iv.   Preston.

After the death of her husband, she moved to Clinton, Indiana.  
No further record.

3       2       1

17.   Rose (Andrew, Founder).  
      Born September 4, 1849, seven months after her father's death.  
      Married Jacob Thompson.

*Children:* THOMPSON

4

XX 48.       i.   Ethel Daisy.

4

XX 49.       ii.   Edith Delma.

Rose Chapman Thompson lived and died at Antwerp, Ohio, and was  
buried in the New Maumee Cemetery at Antwerp.

#### FOURTH GENERATION

4       3       2       1

21.   Jack (Timothy, Jr., Andrew, Founder). CHAPMAN  
      Married a Miss Howel.

*Children:*

5

50.       i.   Archie.

5.

51.       ii.   John. Married. Lived at Hartford City, Indiana, and died  
              there.

Jack lived at Aldon or Bellaire, Michigan. Died in 1931 or 1932. No  
further record.

4       3       2       1

34.   George W. (Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
      Born in 1856.  
      Married Ida Soles.

*Children:*

- |     |      |        |
|-----|------|--------|
|     |      | 5      |
| 52. | i.   | Fred.  |
|     |      | 5      |
| 53. | ii.  | Anna.  |
|     |      | 5      |
| 54. | iii. | Clyde. |
|     |      | 5      |
| 55. | iv.  | Ella.  |
|     |      | 5      |
| 56. | v.   | Hazel. |

George W. lived and died in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was buried in White City Cemetery, Spencerville, Ind.

- |     |   |   |   |   |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
|     | 4   | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 35. | Eben Miles (Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).   |   |   |   |
|     | Born March 20, 1858, in Cleveland, Ohio.  |   |   |   |
|     | Married Irene Jane Markle (born May 9, 1868) married May 12, 1884. She was the daughter of Henry Markle and Kathern Ann Markle. |   |   |   |

*Children:*

- |        |       |  |
|--------|-------|--|
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 57. | i.    | Lee Morris.  |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 58. | ii.   | Charles Emerson.   |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 59. | iii.  | Harlon Jay.  |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 60. | iv.   | Emilus Case.   |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 61. | v.    | Mary Cathern.  |
|        |       | 5  |
| 62.    | vi.   | Maude May. Born October 6, 1896. Died March 21, 1918.<br>Buried at White City Cemetery, Spencerville, Ind. |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 63. | vii.  | Myrtle Ann.  |
|        |       | 5  |
| XX 64. | viii. | Mildred Ruth.  |



5

XX 65. ix. William Willard.

5

66. x. Gladys Irene. Born September 6, 1910. Married Joe Hall, son of Ward Hall, in 1933. Died April 5, 1935, and was buried in the Parker Cemetery, on the St. Joe Road, in Allen County, Indiana.

At the age of one year, Eben Miles moved with his family from Cleveland, to Antwerp, Ohio, and two years later, to DeKalb County, Indiana. He taught school for three terms and then went into the carpenter and contracting business, which he continued for fifty-three years. Five of his sons and two grandsons were also carpenters. He died April 13, 1936, and was buried in the White City Cemetery, in DeKalb County, Indiana.

4

3

2

1

37. Andrew S. (Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).

Born in 1865.

Married Inez Akins.

*Children:*

5

67. i. Infant daughter, name not discovered, buried at Newville, Ohio, Cemetery.

5

68. ii. Infant daughter, name not discovered, buried at Newville, Ohio, Cemetery.

5

69. iii. Lotus. Thrown from horse and broke her neck aged 11. Buried at Newville, Ohio, Cemetery.

5

70. iv. Harold. Died when 6 years old. Buried at Newville, Ohio, Cemetery.

5

71. v. Max. Operated a filling station.

The order of birth given above is uncertain.

No further record.

Andrew S. studied shorthand at Indianapolis. He taught in a college in Norfolk, Virginia, and at Lincoln, Nebraska. He died in 1928, and was buried in the Newville, Ohio, Cemetery.

- 4            3            2            1
38. Henry (Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born March 17, 1868.  
 Married Allie Reasser September 19, 1884, daughter of Daniel Reasser and Nancy Reasser.

*Children:*

- 5
- XX 72.            i. King W.
- 5
- XX 73.            ii. Owen.
- 5
- XX 74.            iii. Juanita.

Henry Chapman was for 17 years a traveling salesman for the International Harvester Company. Then for 25 years, he was postmaster at Woodburn, Indiana. Then he retired to his farm two miles northeast of Woodburn, where he farmed and raised fruit.

- 4            3            2            1
48. Ethel Daisy (Rose, Andrew, Founder)  
 Born December 7, 1873.  
 Married Verrell John Humphrey. HUMPHREY

*Child:*

- 5
- XX 75.            i. Edith Marie.

- 4            3            2            1
49. Edith Delma (Rose, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born September 5, 1876.  
 Married Oriel Humphrey, an engineer on the B&O Railroad.

*Child:*

- 5
76.            i. Ezma.

FIFTH GENERATION

- 5            4            3            2            1
57. Lee Morris (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born January 26, 1885.  
 Married Violet Kinsey, daughter of Gust Kinsey.



*Children:*

CHAPMAN

- 6  
77. i. Willard.  
6  
XX 78. ii. Lee, Jr.  
6  
XX 79. iii. Lucille.  
6  
80. iv. William.  
6  
81. v. Doris Gene.  
6  
82. vi. Cleo.  
6  
83. vii. Carol.  
6  
84. viii. Robert.

Lee Morris Chapman is a carpenter and has also worked in a meat market.

- 5                      4                      3                      2                      1  
58. Charles Emerson (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Born November 13, 1886.  
Married Frances Butler, daughter of David Butler.

*Children:*

- 6  
85. i. Virginia.  
6  
XX 86. ii. Charles Richard.  
6  
XX 87. iii. Isabelle.  
6  
88. iv. Josephine. Married Robert Crowl. No further record.  
6  
89. v. Rachel.  
6  
90. vi. David.

Charles Emerson Chapman is a carpenter.

- 5                      4                      3                      2                      1
59. Harlon Jay (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born February 22, 1889.  
 Married Jane Notestine, daughter of John Notestine.

*Children:*

- 6
- XX 91.            i. Harold.
- 6
92.            ii. Howard. Married Pauline Wolfe.
- 6
93.            iii. Joe. Was a yeoman in the Navy in World War II.
- 6
94.            iv. Mary Ethel.

- 5                      4                      3                      2                      1
60. Emilus Case (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born October 22, 1891.  
 Married Freda Page, daughter of James Page.

*Children:*

- 6
95.            i. Elsie. Married Howard Watts.

Emilus Case Chapman was a brakeman on the B. & O. Railroad for 17 years. He was scalded to death in a wreck at Blue Island, Illinois, October 18, 1933. He was buried at Garrett, Indiana.

- 5                      4                      3                      2                      1
61. Mary Cathern. (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born May 29, 1894.  
 Married Warren Lepper.

LEPPER

*Children:*

- 6
- XX 96.            i. James.

6  
97. ii. Florence. Married Orlando Rogers.

6  
98. iii. Robert.

5 4 3 2 1  
63. Myrtle Ann (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).

Born March 4, 1899.

Married Thomas Gater.

GATER

*Children:*

6  
99. i. Thomas.

6  
XX 100. ii. Mildred.

6  
101. iii. Robert.

6  
102. iv. Deloris.

5 4 3 2 1  
64. Mildred Ruth (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).

Born April 25, 1904.

Married Everette Mullen.

*Children:*

MULLEN

6  
103. i. Everette, Jr.

6  
104. ii. Betty Gene.

5 4 3 2 1  
65. William Willard (Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).

Born October 4, 1906.

Married Delores Carpenter, daughter of Raymond Carpenter.

*Children:*

CHAPMAN

- 6  
105. i. Ronald.  
6  
106. ii. William.  
6  
107. iii. Sally Ann.

- 5            4            3            2            1  
72. King. W. (Henry, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Born March 7, 1896.  
Married Theda Oberlin, December 25, 1923.

*Children:*

- 6  
108. i. Valaria. Born August 13, 1935.  
6  
109. ii. Vivilene. Born July 9, 1941.

King Chapman's maternal grandmother, Nancy Platter Reasser, knew Johnny Appleseed well. Her family was one of the first to move into northwestern Ohio. Her brother James was the first white child born in that section of the state. One of the orchards planted by Johnny Appleseed was on her father's farm.

King Chapman was in the Navy transports in World War I. After serving thirteen years in the Philippines, he entered West Point and later resigned and became a reserve officer.

Returning to the Middle West, he taught school and became superintendent of various schools. Then he took a government position in the Philippines, where he engaged in educational work for six years and was superintendent of schools in the Island of Jolo. He then traveled in India, Arabia, North Africa, Italy, France, England, Alaska, and the United States.

He had become interested in zoological work; and, in the winter of 1935-1936, he went to British North Borneo as leader of a scientific expedition in the interests of the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University. He has made contributions to some of the greatest museums in this country.

In 1936, he began confidential work for financial interests in the Orient but continued his hobby of excavating old tombs and collecting valuable antiques. On his returns to this country, he has made lecture tours in which he displayed collections of Oriental utensils, weapons, clothing, and musical instruments, and has discussed the life he has observed in the East.

He was at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked it. The next day he was called back into service in the Intelligence Department of the Seventh Air Division. He was a captain and served throughout the entire World War II.

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
73. Owen (Henry, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born September 25, 1906.  
 Married Luella Bush.

*Children:*

- |   |
|---|
| 6 |
|---|
110. i. Leo. Born January 9, 1937.
- |   |
|---|
| 6 |
|---|
111. ii. Donna. Born January 30, 1941. She is an unusually good singer.

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
74. Juanita (Henry, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born February 8, 1913.  
 Married Nathan Becker, son of Christ Becker, November 21, 1931.

*Child:*

BECKER

- |   |
|---|
| 6 |
|---|
112. i. Jerry. Born December 5, 1936.

- |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
75. Edith Marie (Ethel Daisy, Rose, Andrew, Founder).  
 Born April 12, 1893.  
 Married Clifford McKinley, son of Frank McKinley.

*Children:*

McKINLEY

- 6  
XX 113. i. Clifford Verrell.  
6  
114. ii. William Franklin. Born October 11, 1921.

SIXTH GENERATION

- 6 5 4 3 2 1  
78. Lee, Jr. (Lee Morris, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Margarie Long.

*Children:*

CHAPMAN

- 7  
115. i. Jo.  
7  
116. ii. Jill.

- 6 5 4 3 2 1  
79. Lucille (Lee Morris, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Omer Widner.

*Child:*

WIDNER

- 7  
117. i. Robert.

- 6 5 4 3 2  
86. Charles Richard (Charles Emerson, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew,  
1  
Founder).  
Married Madelon Van Vile.

CHAPMAN

*Children:*

- 7  
118. i. Rhett.  
7  
119. ii. Karen.  
7  
120. iii. John.

- 6 5 4 3 2 1  
87. Isabelle (Charles Emerson, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Arthur Folk.

*Children:*

FOLK

7

121. i. Theresa.

7

122. ii. Frances Ann.

6

5

4

3

2

1

91. Harold (Harlon Jay, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Rose Hall.

*Child:*

CHAPMAN

7

123. i. Doreen Lorilla.

6

5

4

3

2

1

96. James (Mary Cathern, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Doris Sanford.

*Children:*

LEPPER

7

124. i. Gloria.

7

125. ii. Juanita.

7

126. iii. Caroline.

6

5

4

3

2

1

100. Mildred (Myrtle Ann, Eben Miles, Miles Eben, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Leroy McKenzie.

*Child:*

McKENZIE

7

127. i. Thomas Leroy.

Leroy McKenzie died, and Mildred married Edward Furgason.

6

5

4

3

2

1

113. Clifford Verrell (Edith Marie, Ethel Daisy, Rose, Andrew, Founder).  
Married Lois Becker, October 25, 1941.

*Child:*

McKINLEY

7

128. i. Lois Lynn. Born December 12, 1943.

Clifford Verrell McKinley graduated from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. He was first lieutenant in the Ninth Air Force during World War II and served in Belgium, France, and Germany.



COPY OF AFFIDAVIT BY EBEN MILES CHAPMAN OCT. 23, 1934

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF ALLEN } ss:—

EBEN MILES CHAPMAN, being first duly sworn upon his oath, says:—

That he was born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 20th, 1858. My father, Miles Eben Chapman, moved from Cleveland, Ohio, to Antwerp, Ohio, when I was about one year old. Father lived at Antwerp for a year or a little more and then moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, when I was between two and three years old. He lived in DeKalb County, Indiana, the remainder of his life. I have always lived in DeKalb County, and Allen County, Indiana.

My father taught school for twenty seven (27) terms. He taught in the towns of Antwerp, Hicksville, and Newville and in Coles Corners, in DeKalb County, Indiana. When he quit teaching school he went to farming. I taught school for three terms. After that I went into the carpenter and contracting business which I followed for fifty three years.

My paternal grandfather's name was Andrew Chapman. He and John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) were brothers.

When I was a boy from six to ten years old my father used to come to Fort Wayne on an average of ten or twelve times a year. He came to Fort Wayne to trade at the stores and to have grain ground into flour at the old Rudisill mill located on the West bank of the St. Joe River near where the Centlivre Brewery now stands. I often came to Fort Wayne with my father. On my first trips with him we came with a team of oxen, later we came with horses. It took us two days to make the trip with oxen—a day to come and a day to return. By leaving at midnight with horses, we could make the trip and get back the following midnight.

We lived about five miles straight East of Spencerville. On the trip to Fort Wayne, we would go to Spencerville, from Spencerville to Hurshtown, from Hurshtown to Leo, from Leo to Cedarville, where we would cross the river and then on to Fort Wayne, coming past the Nodestine farm and what is now the W. S. Roebuck farm on what is now known as the St. Joe Road. I



remember the Nodestine farm and what is now the W. S. Roebuck farm because there was a spring located on each of these farms West of the road. We used to stop at both of these springs and water our oxen and our teams. There was a trail ran from the main road to the spring on the Roebuck farm and then around a hill through a ravine to the East bank of the St. Joe river. When we stopped at the spring on the Roebuck farm we would generally unhitch our oxen or horses from the wagon on the road and lead them in to the spring. I have visited the Roebuck farm within the past thirty days and the old spring I am talking about is still there. When we used to water our horses and our oxen at the spring there was a log cabin about ten by twelve located about twenty-five or thirty feet South of the spring. I never saw the occupant of this house but apparently it was occupied by a trapper for there was always coon and other hides nailed up outside of it when I was there.

At that time there was also an old graveyard or burying ground about a quarter mile Southwest of the spring and about five hundred to six hundred feet West of what is now the reservoir on Roebuck's farm. My father often took me over to this burying ground and told me that my great uncle, Johnny Appleseed, was buried there. The first time I visited this spot I saw two depressions in the ground about the size of a grave. The place was grown up in weeds and there was no fence around it.

Once when my father and my uncle Timothy and I were coming to town we stopped at this spring. On that occasion my father and my Uncle Timothy and I went over to this burying ground and father and Uncle Timothy got out their jackknives and cut away all the weeds around the grave in which they said Uncle Johnny Appleseed was buried.

My father once visited my Uncle Timothy at my Uncle Timothy's house in Ohio. Uncle Timothy lived about one half mile South of the old Erie Canal and one half mile East of the Indiana-Ohio line and was a section foreman on the Wabash Railroad. The railroad ran close to Uncle Timothy's house. When my father returned home, he told that on a Sunday he and Uncle Timothy had taken their axes, got on a hand car and come to Fort Wayne. From Fort Wayne they walked out to this burying ground and with their axes cut some poles and built a three pole fence around Uncle Johnny's grave, which my father told me was the fence he and Uncle Timothy built.

My Uncle Timothy once told me that he attended Uncle Johnnie's funeral.

He said there was only a few people besides the pallbearers at the funeral and that he was the only relative present.

At the time of all my boyhood visits to Uncle Johnnie Appleseed's grave, as I have related them in this affidavit, there was a little log cabin about two hundred feet Southwest of the place where he was buried. About half of this cabin was rotted down at the time I saw it. Both my father and my Uncle Timothy told me that Johnnie Appleseed had built this cabin and lived in it part of the time when he was in Indiana.

Uncle Timothy told me that Johnny Appleseed had a nursery on the Wabash and another in Van Wert County, Ohio.

In 1913, I was building a garage in Garrett, Indiana. I came to the Keller Stone Yard in Fort Wayne, Indiana, to get a load of cut stone for this garage. While I was there somebody came in and inquired about a stone that was being prepared for to mark the grave of Johnny Appleseed.

Mr. Keller said to me, "Chapman that stone is to be erected at the grave of Johnny Appleseed. I'll bet he was your uncle. How much are you going to give toward the cost of the stone?"

I said, "Mr. Keller, if they put the stone where it belongs—where Johnny Appleseed was buried—I will give something for it. If they don't I will not give a cent." I understood at the time that the stone was to be placed in the Archer Cemetery and I knew Johnny Appleseed was not buried there. I have since been informed that a dispute arose as to his burial place before the stone was set and that it was finally placed in one of the Fort Wayne parks instead of the Archer Cemetery.

Within the past thirty days I have visited the W. S. Roebuck farm two or three times. The spring I have referred to is still there. The mound or hill is still there and is now occupied by Mr. Roebuck's reservoir. Two ravines that extended down toward the river can still be distinguished although they have been changed some. I have retraced as best I can the trail that ran from the St. Joe road, past the spring over the hill and on down to the river and marked it's route with stakes stuck in the ground.

From memory and from the landmarks that still remain, I would say the

little cemetery was located from five hundred to six hundred feet West of what is now the reservoir on Mr. Roebuck's farm. There is not now and never has been any question or doubt in my mind where Johnny Appleseed was buried. He was buried in the little graveyard on the W. S. Roebuck farm that I have described in this affidavit.

The above was all related to me by my father, Miles Eben Chapman, and my Uncle, Timothy Chapman.

(Signed) Eben Miles Chapman

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, this 12th day of November, 1934.

(Signed) Mary E. Felger  
Notary Public

My Commission expires:—  
Aug. 24, 1936

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#### COPY OF STATEMENT BY EBEN MILES CHAPMAN

In re Johnny Appleseed building his cabin.

At one time when Johnny Appleseed came to Allen County in the early 1840's he came with my Uncle Timothy Chapman. Uncle Tim had a wife and little girl. They rode on the canal boat. Johnny and Uncle Tim walked and rode Johnnie's horse by turns and came along the tow path. When they arrived just over the state line in Allen County near Antwerp and at a point called the Ox Bow, Uncle Tim got a job of the government at this point taking care of a lock in the canal. Uncle Johnny set about planting his apple seeds and made his headquarters at Uncle Tims. Later he planted a nursery of apple trees along the Maumee in what was once Uncle Tim's place. Uncle helped to plant this nursery. About the year 1840 he made a trip up the St. Joe river. Quick to see the great advantages of this region on the East side of the river near Fort Wayne. He set about at once to build a cabin on a piece of government land.

This cabin he used most of the year until his death. By some hook or crook<sup>1</sup> he never got hold of this piece of land for it fell into the possession of Henry Castle who lived in Preble County, Ohio. Castle never lived on this piece of land. At his death it passed to his heirs who later sold it to Christian Parker in 1860. Then it was sold to Loomas, then to Roebuck. Uncle Tim told me also that in his last sickness he was carried from his cabin to Worth's house where he died. He was carried from Worth's to the grave which was only a few rods in a Southwesterly direction from his Uncle Johnnie's cabin.

After Uncle Johnny failed to get the land on which he had built his cabin, he went to Jay County near Portland and entered a piece of land in 1836.

(Here follows a copy of the deed.)

\* \* \*

(Signed) Eben Miles Chapman

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, this 12th day of November, 1934.

(Signed) Mary E. Felger  
Notary Public.

My Commission expires:—  
Aug. 24, 1936

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<sup>1</sup>After Uncle Johnny's death Uncle Timothy came to look after this piece of land but found he had lost it to another man whom we know now was Henry Castle of Preble County, Ohio, who entered it in 1831.

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## COPY OF AFFIDAVIT BY CHARLES DARWIN CHAPMAN

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF ALLEN } ss:

Charles D. Chapman, being first duly sworn on his oath says:—

My name is Charles Darwin Chapman. My sister, who was reading Charles Darwin's "Origin of Species" at the time of my birth, gave me the name of



Charles Darwin. In my childhood the neighborhood children nicknamed me "Dar," the monkey trainer.

I am seventy-one years old and was born on a farm in DeKalb County, Indiana, one mile north of the Allen County-DeKalb Line and one mile and ninety rods west of the Indiana-Ohio Line.

My father's name was Miles E. Chapman. He was born in Medina County, Ohio. My paternal grandfather's name was Andrew Chapman. His widow, not my grandmother, was about thirty years his junior in age and lived in Antwerp, Ohio. I saw her often at Antwerp and at my father's home. She often told me that my grandfather was a brother of John Chapman, known as Johnnie Appleseed.

In the early 1840's my father came to Antwerp, Ohio. I have often heard it related in family circles that Johnnie Appleseed wanted my father to settle on a tract of land near the Maumee River where he had planted an orchard, but my father refused on account of the mosquitoes and selected another sight and that Johnny Appleseed and my Uncle Timothy helped him to build his first log cabin.

In my boyhood I frequently came to Fort Wayne with my father. We came by wagon over a route on the east side of the St. Joseph River. At some point on the route, the exact location I have forgotten, my father would point over to the St. Joseph River and say, "Your Uncle Johnnie is buried over there." Altho I do not recall of him ever saying definitely that he was buried on the east or west side I always understood from what my father said that he was buried on the east side of the river.

Since my retirement several years ago I have, and now do reside near Tangerine, Florida. I graduated from Tri-State Normal in 1889 and took post graduate work in other schools. I taught school until 1900 and had a lifetime teacher's license in Indiana. For twenty-one years prior to my retirement I was a structural engineer.

(Signed) Charles D. Chapman

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of August, 1944.

(Signed) Chester L. Teeter, N.P.

Notary Public.

COPY OF LETTER FROM CHARLES DARWIN CHAPMAN

Zellwood, Fla. Mch. 1-43

Mr. Wesley S. Roebuck

Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Mr. Roebuck:—Your letter with clippings, from the Ft. Wayne papers, in regard to the resting place of my Great Uncle, were both duly received; and was very much interested in them; and would like very much to contribute something towards solving the past life of my relatives but I am afraid I can't be of very much help. As you, of course, know, I was not yet born when Uncle Johnnie Appleseed was buried. But have heard lots of talk about Uncle from my Father and Uncle Timothy, also from the lips of my grandfather's second wife, who was still alive when I was quite a young man. She was about 30 years younger than Grandpa (my father's dad). My father, Miles Ebbeneiser Chapman, was born near Oberlin, Ohio, on or near Rock River on or about August 8, 1821. He was the baby of a family of seven children; Andrew, Aaron, Timothy, Mary, and Jane, John and Miles Eben. . . . My father told me, when I approached him one time about his life's history. — — — —

This goes by mouth from father to son.—Three young men in search of a new home and more economic freedom set sail from their home country for America and landed in New Jersey about seventeen hundred and fifty. Two of these boys were married, the third remained single. By some way or other it seems they got separated and one brother they completely lost track of but two of them keep in contact with one another unto death. My grandfather, Andrew Chapman was born in the State of New Jersey and later in his life he moved to the Western Reserve near Cleveland, O., on or near Rock Falls on Rock River. This is where Miles Eben Chapman was born.

When my Father, Miles Eben Chapman, was around six years of age, my Grandfathers home was broken up. My Father was put out to a Mr. Peck to raise, (a Presbyterian deacon). He lived with them until a young man of 18 years of age, when he was made a partner in Mr. Peck's grist mill. He received his education in the Oberlin school at Oberlin, O.

When my Father was put out to be raised, my Grandfather Andrew Chapman with his son Timothy moved to Antwerp, O. Here my grandfather was married to his second wife, a native of Antwerp, O., who was 30 years his Junior.

Grandfather Andrew Chapman died at Antwerp, O., and is buried near Uncle Timothy Chapman's lot, (about 150 feet due East of where a monument now stands on Uncle Timothy's lot. Erected to Mrs. A. J. Chapman, the daughter-in-law of Uncle Timothy's). (His grave is not marked but shows an outline).

Miles Eben Chapman died in Newville February 8, 1914, and is buried in Hicksville, O., cemetery.

My Great Grandfather is one of the three brothers mentioned in the forepart of this letter. I know very little else about him only he is of Scottish blood and assume he came from Scotland to New Jersey, U.S.A. According to what my grandmother (2nd wife of Grandpa's) told me, her husband, Andrew Chapman, my Grandpa, and Johnny Appleseed Chapman were very dear friends and their was no doubt in her mind (when asked by me if Johnny Appleseed and Grandpa (Andrew Chapman) were of any relation she says to me, "Why yes, they are brothers."

She also told me where he, Johnny Appleseed, was buried. It was on the banks of the St. Joseph near your place.

Any further questions you may wish to ask I will try and answer.

Thanking you in advance for the part you have taken in this for us I beg to remain

Yours Fraternally

(Signed) Charles Darwin Chapman  
Zellwood, Fla.  
Star route.

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#### STATEMENT OF HENRY CHAPMAN

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF ALLEN } ss:

Henry Chapman, being first duly sworn upon his oath, says:—

That he is sixty-six (66) years of age and now resides at Woodburn,



Indiana; that he is a nephew of Timothy Chapman, who he is informed was a nephew of John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed) which, if true, would make this affiant born about 1817; that Timothy Chapman was a brother of affiant's father, who was born in the year 1821; that affiant recalls talking to Timothy Chapman about Johnnie Appleseed and that Timothy Chapman told this affiant that when he heard of Johnnie Appleseed's death he made a trip from Ohio to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to look after any estate or property which Appleseed left. That while in Fort Wayne, he visited Johnnie Appleseed's grave which was located near and on the same side of the river as the Worth home in which he died. That the foregoing statements were made to this affiant by Timothy Chapman more than fifty years ago.

Affiant further says that he knew and remembers a man by the name of Palmer, who lived near the Indiana-Ohio State Line; that this affiant talked with Mr. Palmer about Johnnie Appleseed; that Palmer stated that he knew Johnnie Appleseed and that he had been at his (Palmer's) home; that Palmer and Appleseed went to a little church along the Maumee River on one occasion together; that the minister saw Johnnie Appleseed and after services were started the minister asked, "Where is the primeval Christian attired in his justly raiment?" Johnnie Appleseed stepped forward and, answering him, said, "Here am I."

Affiant further says that he is the son of Miles Eben Chapman, who had several brothers whom this affiant knew, namely, Timothy Chapman, Aaron Chapman and Andrew Chapman, Jr.; that affiant's grandfather's name was Andrew Chpman, Sr., who was a brother of Johnnie Appleseed; that all of affiant's uncles were highly educated, several of them being graduates of Oberlin College and the University of Cleveland; that affiant is under the impression that the Chapmans originally came from Scotland; that this affiant has knowledge of and has visited three separate and distinct orchards along the Maumee River today which were planted by Johnnie Appleseed.

Affiant further says that his wife, Mrs. Allie Chapman, is the granddaughter of Jacob Platter, who knew Johnnie Appleseed intimately and that he has often heard from him the story of Johnnie Appleseed's life, death and burial.

Affiant further says that he has heard Timothy Chapman tell other people and that he has told this affiant on many occasions that Johnnie Apple-



seed was buried near the place where he died and was carried from the house on a hill to a little burial ground nearby which was his final resting place.

(Signed)

Henry Chapman

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said county and state, this 18th day of September, 1934.

Mary E. Felger

Notary Public

My commission expires:—

Aug. 24, 1936

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#### STATEMENT OF HENRY CHAPMAN

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF ALLEN } ss:

Henry Chapman, being first duly sworn upon his oath, says:—

That he is sixty-six (66) years of age and has resided in the vicinity of Woodburn, Indiana, for approximately thirty-four (34) years, during which time he has acted as Postmaster at Woodburn for twenty-five (25) years; that this affiant's father, Miles E. Chapman, was born in the year 1821 and is a brother of Timothy Chapman, who was born about 1817.

In my boyhood, Timothy Chapman lived on a farm in Ohio about one-half mile South of the old Erie Canal, which was still in operation at that time, and about one-half mile East of the Indiana-Ohio State Line. As a boy I frequently went to my uncle's place to fish in the canal near his home. On the occasion of my visits to his place he often talked to me about Johnnie Appleseed. He told me that when he heard of Johnnie Appleseed's death he made a trip from his home to Fort Wayne, Indiana to investigate and determine whether Johnnie Appleseed left any estate or property in or about Fort Wayne. He also told me that Johnnie Appleseed died at the home of a man by the name of Worth and that he was buried on the farm where he died, and that while he was in Fort Wayne he visited the grave where Johnnie Appleseed was buried.

Affiant further says that he knew and remembers a man by the name of Nathan Palmer who lived near the Indiana-Ohio State Line and within three-quarters of a mile of the place where this affiant was born; that Mr. Palmer told this affiant that he knew Johnnie Appleseed, that Johnnie Appleseed had been at his, Palmer's home, and Palmer often talked with this affiant about him; Palmer told this affiant that he once attended church in a little church house in the vicinity of the Maumee River; that on this occasion the minister apparently saw and recognized Johnny Appleseed in the congregation for he arose and said, "Where is the barefoot primeval Christian attired in his justly raiment?" Whereupon Johnnie Appleseed arose in the congregation and answered, "Here am I."

My Uncle Timothy has told me that Johnnie Appleseed and his, my Uncle Timothy's father's family came to the Maumee River Valley in Indiana from Cleveland Ohio.

(Signed) Henry Chapman

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, this 17th day of October, 1934.

(Signed) Dorothy Yoke  
Notary Public

My Commission expires:  
March 24, 1936

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#### COPY OF LETTER BY MRS. WILLIAM CASTLE

Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

October 19, 1934

Dear Cousin Henry:

In reply to your letter of October 19 will say that it has been quite a while since I heard my father talk about John Chapman or Uncle Johnny Appleseed as he called him. My father, your Uncle Timothy, has been dead for forty-eight years. He died on May 30, 1886, and was over 69 years of age at the time of his death. He was born in Hancock County, Ohio; I can not remember where he said his father was born but I do know that he always spoke of Johnny Appleseed as his uncle and would tell of his conversations with Johnny Appleseed.

My father must have inherited his interest in orchard work. For years his mind ran to nothing but his apples and pears. He had quite a large orchard and always grafted any trees which did not suit him.

Do you remember the big apple orchard on the west side of the Maumee River on the road to the old home. It was about one-half mile from the state line and was one of his orchards. I wish I could tell you more but I can't think of anything more at the present.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) (Mrs.) William Castle.

Mr. Henry Chapman  
Woodburn, Indiana

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#### COPY OF STATEMENT BY JAMES AYERS

Fort Wayne, Indiana

September 3, 1934

To whom it may concern:

I, James Ayres, age sixty-eight, of sound mind and good memory, wish to state that just forty-six years ago I had a conversation with Christian Parker, my wife's uncle, relative to the death and burial of John Chapman, commonly known as "Johnny Appleseed." At that time I was managing a threshing outfit for a Mr. James Mayhew. Of the members of the crew were Neal Crowell, Henry Halter, and Cyrus Faulkner. We were threshing at the farm of Christian Parker and right after supper I became engaged with Christian Parker in the aforementioned conversation. I called Mr. Parker's attention to the fact that so many old orchards were located so far back from the St. Joe road, indicating that the houses had been likewise located so far from the road and I asked Mr. Parker the reason. Mr. Parker said that the houses had not been originally built nor the orchards planted to be near the St. Joe road, which was not then in existence, but that they had been located facing the St. Joseph River, a few hundreds of rods east of the river and past the west side of what is now known as the Roebuck reservoir hill.

Mr. Parker further stated that there was a graveyard below the aforementioned hill and that it was "quite a historical spot because Johnny Apple-

seed was buried there." Mr. Parker further gave me a description of Johnny Appleseed and his activities and told me some of the details surrounding his death and burial. He stated that at the time of Johnny Appleseed's death he was running a sawmill and that Johnny Appleseed died one night at the home of Worth. The following morning Worth came to the Parker mill to tell Christian Parker that "the old man," meaning Johnny Appleseed "died last night." Mr. Parker stated to me that they agreed to "go together" and bury Johnny Appleseed, since he was without money. So Christian Parker and Jacob Parker made Johnny Appleseed's coffin out of walnut lumber, and Christian Parker stated that he helped bury him in the burial ground aforementioned near three oak trees close to a rail line fence between the Vining and Loomas farms on the Loomas farm.

(Signed) James Ayers.

Witnesses: Fred S. Ball  
Howard B. Essex

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COPY OF AFFIDAVIT BY ROSARIA B. MURPHY

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF DEKALB } ss:

ROSARIA B. (COLE) MURPHY, being duly sworn upon her oath, says:

That she is 73 years of age and was born in Newville Township, DeKalb County, State of Indiana, at or near a place known as "Cole's Corner."

Affiant further says that she attended school at Cole's Corner and that Miles Eben Chapman taught school at this school two terms during the time she went to said school.

Affiant further says that she recalls Miles Eben Chapman telling stories regarding his uncle, Johnny Appleseed, and that he would tell how he went from place to place, carrying a little sack with his appleseeds in it and planting the seeds as he went along, and that he, Miles Eben Chapman, would make motions with his hands showing how big the sack was and how he would carry it.



Affiant further says that she has read the foregoing facts and that they are true.

(Signed) Rosaria B. (Cole) Murphy

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of May, 1936.

(Signed) Dorothy Yoke

My Commission expires:  
March 26th, 1940

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### COPY OF LETTER FROM ELENORE PARKER AYERS

Fort Wayne  
August 14, 1936

This is facts told me by my father Jacob Loy Parker and my Uncle Christian Parker in regard to the death and burial of John Chapman better known as Johnny Appleseed. They, my father and uncle, sawed the lumber and made his coffin at the old sawmill located on the east side of the St. Joseph River near what is known as the old Indian trail. Said mill owned and operated by the Parkers. My father and mother came to Allen County in 1841 and the mill was established about that time. That mill was abandoned some time in the early fifties. And Uncle Christian Parker built a mill on the new road known as the St. Joseph road. I know the mill was built before the Civil War. By the fact that it was built while my grandmother Mary Loy Parker was living. And she died in 1861.

(Signed) Elenore Parker Ayers  
513 West Fourth St.  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

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### COPY OF AFFIDAVIT BY MONROE SNYDER

STATE OF INDIANA }  
COUNTY OF ALLEN, } AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, Monroe Snyder, being duly sworn upon my oath, say that I reside at 2315 Eade Avenue, in the city of Fort Wayne, Allen County, State of Indiana, and that I am now past 72 years of age; that I was born in New York state, and was brought to DeKalb County, Indiana, by my parents

when I was a year old; DeKalb County is the county bordering on the north of Allen County. I grew up in DeKalb County and attended public school at Cole's Corners, in said DeKalb County; and the school teacher at that time at that school was Miles Chapman, since deceased. The said Miles Chapman was a great man for talking and lecturing to the pupils about historical and other subjects of interest; and I can recall of him telling the pupils that he was a nephew of "Johnny Appleseed" (John Chapman).

I further say that I have also been acquainted for a great many years with Eben Miles Chapman, deceased, a son of the said Miles Chapman. We grew up together in the same neighborhood; and I can very well remember his telling me,—the first time when I was about 17 years old,—that his father, the said Miles Chapman, showed him the burial place of said "Johnny Appleseed," and that it was located on the east side of the St. Joe River, in Allen County, Indiana. He also told me the same thing about two years ago.

(Signed) Monroe Snyder

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of May, A. D., 1936.

(Signed) H. A. S. Levering,  
Notary Public

My commission expires August 7th, 1939.

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#### COPY OF LETTER FROM KING W. CHAPMAN

Hongkong, China

March 7, 1936

My dear Mr. Roebuck:

I have received your communication in regard to the excavations you are making in an effort to locate the exact site of the grave of Johnny Appleseed (John Chapman). I feel that you are doing a very important civic duty and while at the present time your efforts may not be recognized posterity will benefit by your efforts. Last summer while I was at home I gave you what little assistance I could and I feel that we located a cabin which by all the records we were able to find must have been the old Worth Cabin referred to so often in stories surrounding the death of Johnny Appleseed.



It is a great pity that interest was not taken in the burial site of Johnny Appleseed a few years sooner. Twenty years ago there were many people living who could have marked the site without question. I have often heard my grandfather, Miles E. Chapman, relate stories of the life of his Uncle Johnny Appleseed. Always he would end his stories with the statement that he was buried on the east bank of the St. Joseph River.

My maternal grandmother, Nancy Platter Reasser, knew Johnny Appleseed well. Her family was one of the first to move into the northwestern part of Ohio. Her brother, James, was the first white child born in that section of the state. One of the orchards planted by Johnny Appleseed was located on the farm of her father. In her later years I visited the site with her a number of times. It was her custom to go each fall to secure apples from one of the old trees which she stated was a part of the original orchard. My maternal grandmother was a very frugal and industrious woman who did not at all approve of a big strong man wandering about the country planting apple seeds when he might just as well have been hewing a home out of the forest. I have heard her state that she knew the brother of Johnny Appleseed, my paternal great grandfather, "and he was also shiftless." She related how he carried a gun so much that his coat was worn through on the shoulder. She would have looked on great grandfather with a great deal more respect had he followed some other occupation than that of hunting and fishing.

Although I have searched diligently I have been unable to find written records which would definitely link my family with that of Johnny Appleseed. I have only the statements of my maternal grandmother and my paternal grandfather but I feel this to be quite sufficient since these claims were made more than fifty years ago and were not contested at that time when there were plenty of people living who knew the circumstances. To support the claim that ours is no new claim of relationship there are many people now living who have heard my grandfather refer to his Uncle Johnny Appleseed. Among these are Rosaria Murphy and Monroe Snyder. There are many others.

In common with other members of my family I have never claimed that Johnny Appleseed was buried on your farm, claiming that he was buried somewhere on the east bank of the St. Joseph River in that vicinity. Last summer, however, an incident occurred which leads me to believe that the grave must be on your farm. My uncle, Ebban Chapman, once visited the grave with my

grandfather. He was therefore taken to the Roebuck farm and asked to mark the spot where Johnny Appleseed was buried. Taking a spring for his guide he readily marked the spot. He was then taken home. Two months later his stakes were moved and he was again taken to the same spot. He complained that his stakes had been moved and replaced them within three feet of where he had originally planted them.

We have no quarrel with those who claim Johnny Appleseed was buried in the Archer Cemetery and desire to honor his memory by placing a marker there. I appreciate the efforts of Mr. Harris and others who have done a great deal in reviving interest in Indiana's first great horticulturist. The fact, however, that those claiming Archer Cemetery are unwilling to excavate and your willingness "to tear up your whole farm if necessary," is a strong point in your favor.

For the past twelve years I have spent most of my time in the Orient. I was first engaged solely in educational work. Later I became interested in Zoological work and I have contributed to some of the greatest museums in this country. During the past year I have been doing confidential work for financial interests but I have found time to continue my hobby of excavating old tombs and collecting valuable antiques. I feel, therefore, that I am in a position to state with a certain amount of authority that the evidence I have found on your farm proves to my satisfaction that the old Worth Cabin stood on your farm. That being the case, Johnny Appleseed cannot be buried far from the cabin.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) K. W. Chapman



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THREE BROTHERS NAMED CHAPMAN CAME FROM SCOTLAND AND SETTLED IN  
NEW JERSEY IN 1750. TWO OF THEM MARRIED AND ONE REMAINED SINGLE

GENEALOGY OF THE CHAPMAN FAMILY  
RELATIVES OF  
JOHN CHAPMAN (JOHNNY APPLESEED)

COMPILED BY  
LIZZIE ROEBUCK  
(MRS. MARY ELIZABETH ROEBUCK)

CHAPMAN BROTHERS

ONLY FOUR KNOWN CHILDREN























